



## Options Discussion

### Potential Options

- Keep Idaho's Current Criteria/Uses
- Adopt & Implement EPA Region 10 Guidance
- Develop Site-Specific Criteria
- Other – Potential Natural Vegetation (PNV)

## The Crystal Ball...



### Keep Current Criteria/Uses

#### Pros:

- Least cost in short-term
- Change could be costly and ineffective

#### Cons:

- Oversight agencies question protectiveness
- Does not reflect Idaho's thermal diversity
- Wilderness/unimpaired waters do not meet
- Attainability questioned
- Outdated metrics and science
- EPA likely to promulgate regional temperature criteria

### Adopt & Implement EPA Region 10 Guidance

#### Pros:

- More protective of fish in some waters
- Could reduce future "false positive" 303(d) listings
- Would alleviate political pressure from oversight agencies
- Single metric approach is easier to implement
- More recent science

#### Cons:

- Less attainable than current criteria
- Large undertaking to replace aquatic uses
- Requires additional data collection
- Could be very costly

### Develop Site-Specific Criteria

#### Pros:

- Tailored to Idaho's geography and environment
- Potentially employs latest science
- Could recognize local thermal potential and natural variability

#### Cons:

- EPA may question protectiveness
- Very costly
- Costs multiply if broken into smaller areas or regions
- EPA approval/ESA consultation required for each application (~decade)
- End result may not differ much from EPA guidance

### Other – Potential Natural Vegetation (PNV)

#### Pros:

- Approach usually works
- Helps habitat and other aspects of stream health
- More understandable and accepted methodology

#### Cons:

- Does not work if factors other than shade reduction are an issue
- Interest groups may oppose DEQ's foray into land management

## Reminder of Ground Rules:

- Constructive dialogue
- Active participation
- Begin and end on time
- No dominating the discussion
- Respect opinions
- Leave rank at the door
- No side conversations/cell phones
- Focus on open exchange of ideas